It is an honour to introduce Professor Konishi as our distinguished Runme Shaw Memorial Lecturer of the 36th Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine, 2002. Fumio is an old friend and colleague. We have the same colorectal background as we both trained at the distinguished St Mark’s Hospital in London, not at the new Harrow location but at the old City Road site.

Fumio was born on 29 October 1946 and graduated in 1972 from the University of Tokyo. From 1972 to 1973, he was Junior Resident at the first Department of Surgery, University of Tokyo and graduated onto Junior and Senior Resident at the Tokyo Koseinenkin Hospital from 1973 to 1977. From 1978 to 1980, he was a research fellow at St Mark’s Hospital, London. He obtained his Degree of Doctor in Medical Science (PhD) in 1984 and was a staff surgeon with the Department of Surgery, University of Tokyo from 1981 to 1986. From 1986 to 1988, he was a lecturer in the Department of Surgery at Jichi Medical School and rose to Associate Professor by 1998.

By 2000, he became the Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery, Omiya Medical Centre, Jichi Medical School.

He is a Fellow of numerous societies including:
- Japan Surgical Society
- Japanese Society of Clinical Surgery
- Japanese Society of Gastrointestinal Surgery
- Japanese Society of Gastroenterology
- Japanese Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
- Japan Society of Coloproctology

He is also a member of a number of Overseas and International Societies
- American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons
- American Gastroenterological Association
- Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland
- European Society of Coloproctology
- International University Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons
- International College of Surgeons and the Surgical Research Society

More importantly, he is the Editor of three journals, namely the Japanese Journal of Coloproctology, Japanese Journal of Clinical Oncology and Surgery Today. He is also on the editorial board of Diseases of the Colon and Rectum, Digestive Endoscopy and Colorectal Disease.

Fumio was awarded the 1994 and the 2000 Ohio Valley Society Award by the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons for his research efforts. He has published 54 highly respectable and valuable papers in all.

His personal favourite past-times are indulging in music, especially classical music, swimming and watching baseball. In any case we are delighted that he has chosen to take time off from all of these to visit us at our meeting today.

Ladies and gentleman, I have great pleasure in presenting Professor Fumio Konishi.

Francis Seow-Choen, FAMS